acceptance of the report by the Government would require examination of the various recommendations by the concerned Ministries/Departments as well as States/UTs.

Backlog of Court Cases

2585. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Executive is responsible for backlog of cour cases; and

(b) if so, what arc the other reasons?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) The pendency of cases in Courts is due to various complex factors including increased institution of cases, rise in population, inadequate judge strength, granting of adjournments, radical change in the pattern of litigation, multifarious litigation, long arguments and lawyers' strike etc.

Multi-crore scam in photo identity card scheme

2586. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether multi-crore scam in photo identity card scheme has been pointed out by the audit;

(b) if so-, the details thereof; and

(c) the States where the scheme has been completed?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in its Report for the year 1997 (March) Vol. III has made certain observations about underutilisation of funds alloted by the Central Government for implementation of the scheme of electors photo identity cards, excess/avoidable expenditure in some States due to non-observance of instructions issued by the Election Commission of India etc.

(c) The scheme of issue of Photo Iden-tity Cards is an on-going scheme. A Statement giving the status of the scheme in various States and Union Territories is laid on the Table of the House. *[Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question 2578 (b) and (c)].*

Implementation of Lower Damodar Drainage Scheme

2587. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Lower Damodar Drainage Scheme, initially a part of the Damodar Valley Project was never implemented by West Bengal Government and this is the main cause of flood in Hoogly and Howrah districts;

(b) whether it is also a fact that four more dams planned in the second phase at Balpahari, Aiyar, Bokaro and Berma in Bihar are still waiting to come up since the inception of DVC;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any proposal exists with Government regarding completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) The primary consideration in the flood control aspect of the DVC dams was to provide adequate protection to left flood embankment alongwith Damodar river by restricting the flood at Durgapur barrage to 2,50,000 cusecs. The drainage scheme was meant to ensure safe discharge of 2,50,000 cusecs in Lower Damodar channels. The implementation of the Lower Damodar Drainage Scheme rests with the Government of West Bengal.

Four more dams planned in the second phase were at Balpahari, Aiyar, Bokaro and Bermo in Bihar could not be taken up as Government of West Bengal felt that these dams were not necessary.

(d) Does not arise.

गांवो का विद्युतीकरण

2588. **श्री कपिल सिब्बल:**
श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया:
श्री अनिल शर्मा:

क्या विद्युत मंत्री 8 दिसम्बर, 1998 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 1044 में दिए गए उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में बिना बिजली वाले गांवो की राज्य-वार संखा कितनी है:

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि विद्युतीकरण गांवों में कुल घरों में से केवल 37% घरों में ही बिजली का उपभोग किया जा रहा है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और घरों में बिजली के इतने कम उपभोग के मुख्य कारण क्या है ?

विद्युत मंत्री (श्री पी. आर कुमारमंगलम): (क) अक्तूनर , 1998 को अन्तिम रूप से समाप्त होने वाले वर्ष के लिए उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार देश में गैर-विद्युतीकृत गांवों संख्या और उनकी राज्यवार स्थिति विवरण में दी गई है (**नीचे देखिए**)

(ख) और (ग) देश में कुल 5,87,258 बसे हुए गांवों (1991 की जनगणना) में से अक्तूबर, 1998 में 5,02,239 बसे हुए गांवो में विद्युतीकरण किए जाने की सूचना प्राप्त हुई और अनुबंध मे उपलब्ध अन्तिम ब्यौरों के अनुसार 85,019 गांवो का विद्युतीकरण अभी किया जाना शेष है । 1991 की जनगणना के अनुसार लगभद 31% ग्रामीण घरों को विधुतीकराण का लाभ हुआ । घरेलु विद्युतीकरण के निन्म स्तर के मुख्य कारण मुख्य गांव के आस-पास की बस्तियों का विद्युतीकरण नहीं किया जाना, अनेक विद्युतीकृत गांवों के मुख्य बसे हुए क्षेत्र के अन्दर अपर्याप्त वैद्युत बुनियादि स्वरूप, ग्रामवासियों की खराब आर्थिक स्थिति और उनके द्वारा आन्तरिक विद्युतीकरण की आरंभिक लागत का भुगतान करने में असमर्थता है ।

(**विवरण**

राज्यवार गैर-विद्युतीकृत गांवों की स्थिति

(**अक्तूबर**, 1998 **के अंत तक**)—**अनन्तिम**

क्र. स.	**राज्य**	**कुल बसे हुए गांव** (1991 **की जनगणना**)	**गांव , जिनका वियुतीकरण होना है**
1.	आन्ध्र प्रदेश	26586	21
2.	अरूणाचल प्रदेश	3649	1488
3.	असम	24685	5666
4.	बिहार	67513	19674
5.	गोवा	360	10
6.	गुजरात	18028	91
7.	हरियाणा	6759	0
8.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	16997	362
9.	जम्मू व कश्मीर	6477	162
10.	कर्नाटक	27066	403
11.	केरल	1384	0
12.	मध्य प्रदेश	71526	3457